

C3
end
new extended macro commands initially unknown to a macro language; and

searching a registry of keywords for a code of instructions to execute, the code of instructions associated with the one or more keywords.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. In this application claims 1-6 are pending. Out of these 6 claims, claims 1, 3, and 5 are independent claims.

In the Office Action, claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,105,043 ("Francisco et al."). On October 4, 2001, a telephone interview was conducted between the Examiner and Applicants' attorney. Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy of extending the interview. During the interview, Applicants' attorney explained to the Examiner that the claims in the present application recite an "extensible macro language." It was also explained that the section of Francisco et al. that the Examiner cites as allegedly disclosing the above element in the claims, i.e., Col 15, lines 31-67 and col 16, lines 1-17, describes variable substitution. That is, the data input by a user on an HTML input form is substituted with a variable in a macro language file having SQL commands. Accordingly, it was explained, Francisco et al. does not disclose or suggest a method and apparatus for extensible macro language. No where in Francisco et al., is there a suggestion of disclosure of extending its macro language.

The Examiner indicated that although the preamble in the claims recite "extensible macro language", the elements claimed do not appear to recite "extending" a macro language. The Examiner, however, agreed that if the phrase "macro command"

or "command" was amended to include the word "extended", the claims would be allowable, pending Primary Examiner's final approval. Accordingly, independent claims 1, 3, and 5 are being amended to include the word "extended". In view of the foregoing explanation, the claims are believed to be patentable, and a favorable Office Action is hereby earnestly solicited.

This communication is believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action and every effort has been made to place the application in condition for allowance. If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment according to 37 C.F.R. §1.121. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 3, and 5 as set forth below.

1. (Three Times Amended) A method for providing an extensible macro language comprising:

analyzing a macro language expression;

determining based on a predetermined syntax of a macro language, one or more keywords in the analyzed macro language expression, the keyword representing an extended macro command initially unknown to the macro language;

retrieving a code of instructions associated with the keyword from a registry of keywords; and

executing the code of instructions associated with the keyword.

3. (Three Times Amended) A system for providing an extensible macro language, comprising:

a parser having a predefined syntax to determine one or more extended keywords embedded within a macro language expression, the extended keyword representing a newly extended command initially unknown to a macro language;

a keyword repository having one or more keywords and one or more associated codes; and

a macro handler coupled to the parser for receiving the extended keyword from the parser, the macro handler in response

to the received extended keyword, retrieving a code of instructions associated with the received extended keyword from the keyword repository and executing the code of instructions to run the [macro] extended command represented by the extended keyword.

5. (Three Times Amended) A method for parsing a macro language expression, comprising:

analyzing a macro language expression;

determining based on a predetermined syntax of a macro language, one or more keywords in the analyzed macro language expression, the one or more keywords representing one or more new extended macro commands initially unknown to a macro language; and

searching a registry of keywords for a code of instructions to execute, the code of instructions associated with the one or more keywords.